

Lester Snow
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Sir,

We both attended the recent Cal/Fed-Bay/Delta meeting in Fresno and I am sure you know my position on more dams, more water transfers, more canals and particularly the peripheral canal.

In my considered opinion, any of the above fixes would be the final insult to the river(s) of California and their disappearing fish populations, not to mention the value to any other of the states population as places to relax, teach the upcoming generations the value of something that money can't buy.

Fish and wildlife have had to accept a lesser habitat due to mans' activities with few or no voices raised in their behalf. I wonder if they had a voice or vote, what answers would the greedy human race have.

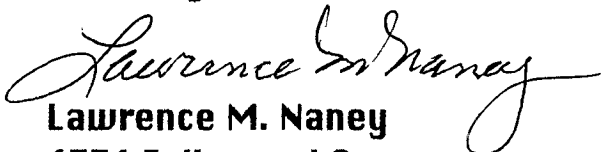
*Fifty-eight years ago when I was a high school student, Shasta dam, Friant dam and the Pit river complex and the North fork of the Feather river were the major dams, primarily, with the exception of Shasta, for power generation. There were several small man created reservoirs near the headwaters of some of the northern and central Sierras streams-principally for recreation areas with summer homes for bay area and central valley residents. It is a shock for someone with my memory to look at current maps of the mountain regions of the entire state with the proliferation of dammed-up rivers and even some of the larger creeks, is unbelievable. Some of them I used to fish such as Putah creek, Stoney creek and Cache creek, heading in the coast ranges, for fall run salmon and steelhead, no longer support any of these species because of dams primarily for irrigation purposes. For ever stream from the coast range that has been restricted by a dam, the occurrences of dams in the Sierra is in the multiples of ten to fifteen. Will someone please explain to me why no concern was ever given these streams residents-perhaps because they have no **VOTE !!***

I am not a "JOHNNY-COME-LATELY" concerning conservation. Forty plus years ago, in conjunction with several steelhead & salmon fishermen from the bay area, we argued with forestry and the Dept. of Fish & Game about the abuse to north coast rivers due to poor logging practices. We were ignored then and told our concern about siltation from slides and floods due to deforestation was not valid. If you feel we were "nuts"-ask yourself why aren't the north coast streams supporting the runs of fish that used to be the reason why

**out of staters were in California every winter to fish for them.
The same applies to trout rivers in the state, the fishery is now
partially maintained by "put & take" hatchery fish at an expenditure
of state funds that could be used for more valuable purposes to aid
the environment of our lakes and streams-many of them sorely need
some TENDER LOVING CARE !!**

**IN CLOSING, TAKE A HARD, LONG LOOK AT WHAT "PROGRESS" HAS DONE TO
THE STATES ENVIRONMENT.**


Sincerely,



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**cc: The Honorable Albert Gore
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**cc: Jenna Olsen
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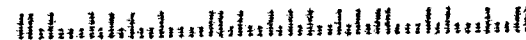


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